

The Ash Grove

Traditional Welsh Song, with dance by Chris Kermiet

I haven't created very many English Country Dances, since there are so many good ones already out there. However, I was surprised to find that no one had ever written a dance for the Ash Grove – one of the most beautiful melodies I know. So here it is. The tune should be played a little slowly and romantically – the tune is best that way, anyhow. Since I didn't know a good source for the music, I wrote out a copy which you may [download as a pdf](#).

You can listen to the tune as well, as a midi file. (The quality of this will vary depending on the quality of your midi soundbank.)

If you want to, you can also [download the midi file](#) (you may need to alt-click or right-click on this link to start the download). The midi file plays five times through the tune.

Duple Proper

A1: Ones lead down and cast around the twos (4 wz. measures) while the twos wait 2 wz. measures, then turn half by the right to change sides.

Ones lead up, to cast round the twos above, while the twos wait 2 wz. measures, then turn half by the right to change sides.

A2: Twos lead up, and cast around the ones above (4 wz. measures) while the ones wait 2 measures, then turn half by the right to change sides.

Twos lead down and cast round the ones below, while the ones wait 2 measures, then turn half by the right to change sides.

B: First corners cross (2 wz.

Circle half (2 wz. measures),

The Ash Grove (AABA)

At the top of the set, the ones will need to dance through a ghost number two couple.

The twos at the foot of the will need to cast around a ghost couple as well.

This corner crossing is almost a

measures), Second corners
cross (2 wz. measures)

Ones cast as the twos lead up
(2 wz. measures).

A3: Ones full figure eight through
the twos above **OR**

Double figure eight, twos
casting to start as the ones
pass between them (8 wz.
measures).

half-gypsy.

This circle should collapse a little
bit, and the ones should sort of peel
off, as the twos lead up the middle.

The hardest part of this dance
comes right at the end, where the
ones, who have been moving up
the set doing the figure eight, have
to start the next round of the dance
by leading *down* through a new
number two couple below.

[← Previous Dance](#)



[Next Dance ⇒](#)